Indian Prisoners List

363. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pakistan Interior Ministry has prepared a list of 182 Indian Prisoners in Pakistan on the basis of a survey;

(b) whether a Pakistani daily, which published the list, stated that these people are languishing in Pakistani prisons on unknown charges;

(c) if so, the details in regard thereto;

(d) whether the government have sought consular access to these prisoners and asked Pakistan to officially release this list; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Pakistani Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Pakistani media on February 2, 2005, reported that the Pakistan Government has prepared a list of 182 Indian prisoners in Pakistani jails.

(d) Government has taken up the matter with the Government of Pakistan for confirmation and for early grant of consular access as well as release and repatriation.

(e) Response of the Government of Pakistan is awaited.

Maoist threat to India

364. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether growing clout of Maoist in Nepal is a threat to India's security;

(b) whether Government hold the view that the Maoists in Nepal have links with Naxalite insurgents in many Indian states; and

(c) the steps Government are taking to protect India's interest from these insurgent movement?